

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Street Crimes Unit, (805) 339-4389 Release Prepared by: Det. Sergeant Edward Caliento VENTURA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Incident: Commercial Burglary, Possession of Stolen Property, Possession of Drugs Arrest

Location: 901 S. Kimball Rd Ventura Aquatic Center

Date/Time Occurred: 6/15/20 @ 0315 hours

Officer(s) Involved: Ventura Police Patrol, Ventura Police K9, Ventura Police Street Crimes Unit (SCU)

Suspect(s): Benavides, Benito (DOB: 2-10-93) vagrant

Report #: 20-38976

Narrative:

When the Ventura Aquatic Center employees arrived to work on 6/15/20, they realized that someone had entered the building and stole numerous two-way radios used by staff and lifeguards with a value of over \$800. Ventura Police Patrol responded and viewed the security video. At about 0315, an unknown subject climbed over the wall and entered the building, ultimately stealing the radios before leaving the area.

On 6/16/20, Ventura Police Command Center received an unrelated call for service reference a vagrant sleeping on the high school campus of Saint Bonaventure. Police K9 officer responded and located Benavides asleep with property around him. The property included the stolen radios. Benavides was also in possession of methamphetamine.

Benavides was arrested for commercial burglary, possession of stolen property, and possession of a controlled substance. He was booked at the Ventura County Jail. A review of the Ventura County Superior Court website shows Benavides has prior convictions for petty theft, brandishing a knife, lodging on private property, and possession of narcotic paraphernalia.

The complete press release, including suspect description, can be viewed online at www.venturapd.org

If you have any information about this crime, you can make an anonymous call to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS.

If your information leads to an arrest, you could receive a cash reward of up to \$1,000.